

VZCZCXRO2844  
RR RUEHIHL  
DE RUEHC #1446 3012141  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
R 282120Z OCT 09  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD 9217  
RUEHIHL/REO HILLAH 0594

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 111446

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/28/2034  
TAGS: [PINR](#) [ECON](#) [EFIN](#) [EIND](#) [ELAB](#) [PGOV](#) [IZ](#)  
SUBJECT: (C/REL USA, AUS, CAN, GBR, NZL) KUDOS FOR  
REPORTING ON IRAQ PROVINCIAL ECONOMIC DYNAMICS  
(C-IA9-01805)

REF: A. REO HILLAH 212076353  
[1](#)B. REO HILLAH 210857703  
[1](#)C. REO HILLAH 211774789  
[1](#)D. REO HILLAH 212442915  
[1](#)E. REO HILLAH 212553232  
[1](#)F. REO HILLAH 212333000  
[1](#)G. REO HILLAH 211731241  
[1](#)H. REO HILLAH 213049664

Classified By: ELISSA G. PITTERLE, DIRECTOR, INR/OPS. REASON: 1.4(C).

[1](#)1. (C/REL USA, AUS, CAN, GBR, NZL) WASHINGTON ANALYSTS  
CONTINUE TO MONITOR AND ASSESS THE STATE OF THE IRAQI ECONOMY  
AT THE LOCAL, PROVINCIAL, AND NATIONAL LEVEL. WE READ WITH  
INTEREST REF PRT CABLES AND APPRECIATED THE LEVEL OF  
GRANULARITY ON THE STRATEGIC THREATS FACING BABIL'S ECONOMY,  
INCLUDING HOW STATE (GOI) PARTICIPATION AND INTERVENTION  
HINDER BROAD-BASED ECONOMIC GROWTH, THE CONDITION OF SPECIFIC  
STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES, THE GENERAL MALAISE OF THE  
AGRICULTURE AND MANUFACTURING SECTORS, THE EXTENT TO WHICH  
PRIVATE INVESTORS AND LOCAL BUSINESS PERSONS HAVE DIFFICULTY  
NAVIGATING BUSINESS REGULATIONS, AND THE ABILITIES OF  
BUSINESS PERSONS TO OVERCOME SUCH IMPEDIMENTS. AS DEMANDS  
FROM POLICYMAKERS FOR ANALYSIS ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AT ALL  
LEVELS CONTINUE TO INCREASE, THIS TYPE OF  
REPORTING--ESPECIALLY INFORMATION ON THE STRATEGIC ECONOMIC  
DECISIONS BY BOTH PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL LEADERS AND  
SPECIFIC "ON THE GROUND" FACTS OF LOCAL BUSINESSES AND  
INVESTOR INTEREST--ARE EXTREMELY VALUABLE. FURTHER ECONOMIC  
REPORTING FROM POST OR PRTS, TIME AND RESOURCES PERMITTING,  
WOULD BE MUCH APPRECIATED; SEVERAL QUESTIONS OF PARTICULAR  
INTEREST ARE LISTED BELOW. MANY THANKS, AND REGARDS FROM  
WASHINGTON.

[1](#)A. (U) WHAT ARE THE BUYING PATTERNS OF BABIL RESIDENTS? DO  
THEY HAVE A PREFERENCE FOR PURCHASING LOCAL GOODS? WHAT ARE  
THE PROSPECTS FOR MANUFACTURING TO INCREASE JOBS IN THE  
PROVINCE?

[1](#)B. (U) WHAT ARE THE PROSPECTS BABIL CAN ESTABLISH A  
HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY TO ACCOMMODATE SHIA-MUSLIM PILGRIMS?

[1](#)C. (U) WHAT PORTION OF BABIL RESIDENTS RELY ON PRIVATE  
ELECTRICITY GENERATION? HOW WELL EQUIPPED ARE LOCAL  
TELECOMMUNICATION COMPANIES AT PROVIDING SERVICES TO THE  
BABIL POPULACE?

[1](#)D. (U) HOW MUCH OF BABIL'S ECONOMY IS DRIVEN BY  
NATIONAL-LEVEL POLICIES? HOW MUCH DOES GOVERNMENT SPENDING  
CONTRIBUTE TO THE GROWTH OF THE ECONOMY?

[1](#)E. (U) HOW MUCH OF BABIL'S ECONOMY IS DRIVEN BY THE LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT?

[1](#)2. (U) PLEASE CITE C-IA9-01805 IN THE SUBJECT LINE OF  
REPORTING IN RESPONSE TO THE ABOVE QUESTIONS.  
CLINTON